

# **Yavapai County Title II RAC Projects**

## **Guidance for Applicants**

**Background.** Title II RAC projects are funded under the authority of the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act of 2000, as re-authorized in 2008. The primary location for proposed projects is on the Prescott, Coconino, Tonto and Kaibab National Forest's in Yavapai County. However, projects can be proposed for non-federal lands within Yavapai County if the said project provides benefits to these National Forests.

**Project Purpose and Objectives.** Projects proposed should meet these purposes: Improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure; implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems; and restore and improve land health and water quality. Projects objectives may include, but are not limited to:

- Road, trail access and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration;
- Soil health and productivity improvement;
- Improvement in forest ecosystem health and productivity;
- Watershed restoration, preservation and maintenance;
- Restoration, maintenance and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat;
- Control of noxious and exotic weeds;
- Re-establishment of native species; and
- Encourage sustainable recreation opportunities.
- Other (ie. fire prevention, integrated pest management etc.)

**Eligible Applicants.** Federal agencies, state and local governments, tribal governments, non-profit organizations and private individuals.

### **Information and Guidance for Project Applicants.**

1. The deadline for project proposals is April 25, 2014. All project proposals must be submitted or postmarked by the deadline date.
2. Project proposals must have a recommendation by the District Ranger and appropriate land owner/manager is applicable on the project proposal **prior to** consideration for funding. Thus before submitting a proposal, applicants should discuss their proposal with the District Ranger on the National Forest where the project is proposed.
3. Project proposals must be accompanied by a completed and signed Title II Project Submission Form.
4. Electronic grant applications are available upon request at [dmaneely@fs.fed.us](mailto:dmaneely@fs.fed.us) or at the following website [https://fsplaces.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/secure\\_rural\\_schools.nsf/RAC/96ED9A2748413F95882575C5004C3B43?OpenDocument](https://fsplaces.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/secure_rural_schools.nsf/RAC/96ED9A2748413F95882575C5004C3B43?OpenDocument) . Inquiries may be made by calling Debbie Maneely at (928) 443-8130.
5. Funding for approved projects is through a reimbursement type grant. This means the applicant should have funds available upfront to spend on their projects, and be reimbursed for those expenditures later.
6. The budget accompanying the grant application must include 5% above the amount being requested to cover administrative costs of Forest Service personnel who will process your project if approved. (The 5% FS Indirect Costs should be inserted on the Project Cost Analysis Worksheet, Colum B, Item n)
7. No matching funds are required for RAC grants, but proponents are strongly encouraged to provide financial and/or in-kind contributions. These contributions should be enumerated in both the project proposal and accompanying budget.
8. The federal contribution to approved projects will be less than or equal to \$75,000; funding in excess of this amount will not be considered.

9. Project proposals will be evaluated on cost-effectiveness including financial and in-kind contributions, demonstration of partnership involvement, benefits to ecosystem health, and improvement in the quality of human life including any employment opportunities and jobs created.
10. Approved project funding may be used for the cost of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis, or for on-the-ground project implementation, where NEPA has already been completed.
11. Title II funds may be used for road and trail maintenance. Applicants should insure that Forest Service engineers work with the County Road Department to plan and implement needed work.
12. All non-federal applicants will need to meet the requirements for Central Contractor Registration (CCR) ([www.ccr.gov](http://www.ccr.gov)) and have a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number (<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>) established.
13. Applicants can add an additional short narrative describing the benefits of their project and support from the public (ie. letters, messages etc).